

## Chapter 1 : Tortuga Bay - Wikipedia

*Walking The Beaches Of Ecuador [Jose-German Cardenas, Karen Marie Greiner] on racedaydvl.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. a real good read if you can read real good.*

June 1, Beach Towns in Ecuador: Which is Best for You? Where is the best beach town in Ecuador to hang your hat? Because not every beach town is created equal. Also known as the Ruta Spondylus for the spiny red mollusks found in the sea here , this highway has been improved considerably in recent years as hopes abound that coastal Ecuador will one day become a major tourist attraction. If you have two weeks to spare you can easily check out the following areas: This is the place for those who like all amenities: The beach here is wide, sandy, and clean, bordered by the blue, calm Pacific waters. While the entire beachfront is bustling during peak periods, it tends to quiet down as you go west along the water. Playas Close to Guayaquil on the south coast of the Santa Elena Peninsula, you will find the resort community of Playas. Although smaller than Salinas, Playas offers many of the same amenities and services. The nature of Playas is changing rapidly from that of a small fishing village to a major vacation center. A number of new condo projects are either under construction or on the drawing board. Things are looking up in Playas however, as an upgrade to a nearby port and plans to move the Guayaquil airport out of downtown to a site between Guayaquil and Playas has spurred growth and infrastructure improvements. However, expats are now finding that it deserves a closer look. This is perhaps the fastest growing expat area in Ecuador, as many are taking advantage of the low cost of property and land here. This gives it a wide, sandy beach that is great for fishing boats and folks who just want to relax on the sand. The bounty that the artisanal fishermen bring in from the sea especially the lobsters means that the many restaurants around town always have the freshest and best seafood. Music, eateries, and cocktail stands abound in what is known throughout the country as Party Central. Puerto Lopez sits on the beach at the heart of a crescent bay rimmed by lush jungle-covered hills. Ayampe Looking for a quiet beach and lush, tropical vegetation? Then check out Ayampe. It boasts a wide, beautiful beach and access to the Rio Ayampe trail, where you can walk through stunning rainforest along the Ayampe River, or even hike the 15 miles or so over the hills to Puerto Lopez. The town has many great places to stay, and several small restaurants. Because of the port and the many fish-processing plants located here, Manta has a bit of an industrial feel. There is a well-organized expat community, but bargain properties are harder to find, snapped up by Ecuadorians who rent to the growing number of workers flocking into the city to build a new oil processing facility near here. Crucita For a relaxed lifestyle, look 35 minutes north of Manta to the small town of Crucita, with a rapidly growing expat community. Santa Marianita Just south of Manta, the beach community of Santa Marianita is growing by leaps and bounds. Although the town was damaged in the earthquake of April , it recovered quickly and now offers the best bang for your buck along the coast. Each town was popular with Ecuadorians for years, and over time they have grown so close that it is hard to tell where one ends and the other begins. The beaches are beautiful, with room for both fishermen and swimmers, and the towns have a variety of affordable hotels and hostels. This special guide covers real estate, retirement and more in Ecuador and is yours free when you sign up for our postcards below.

## Chapter 2 : Best Beaches and Towns in Ecuador: Which is Best for You?

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This page contains affiliate links meaning Big World Small Pockets may receive a small commission on any purchases at no extra cost to you. Staying a few extra days after the market however, can give you a key opportunity to discover some of the gorgeous surrounding countryside this Andean area boasts. Lake Cuicocha is a stunning crater lake about 1hr away from Otavalo by bus via the town of Quiroga. It offers a great day hike that follows a clearly marked path around the edge of the lake and will take you about 4 hours. The views of the glistening lake and the 2 guinea pig-shaped islands apparently! There are some minor climbs and descents on the trail, and you are at altitude here over m , so make sure you bring adequate water, snacks and maybe a rain jacket too as the weather can quickly turn! There is also a great little visitor centre at the start of the hike and plenty of lookouts as you go along for photos. I learnt about this hike from the wonderful owners in Hostal Chasqui in Otavalo, who also gave me a great hand-drawn map of the trail and lots of info about transport there and back. I recommend the Case de Arbol hike, which is a hr walk up to a famous tree house that overlooks the valley. All the photos I have from there involve me in numerous layers of clothing squinting into the sun – not the most attractive look, especially when I started to experience altitude sickness! Nevertheless, I thoroughly recommend heading out to tackle this beast! Just check the weather before you book your trip – you want to make sure you get some good, cloudless views from the top. Either you can stay in Quito and head out to Cotopaxi for a day trip or, take my advice, and stay in a wonderful little hostel in the surrounding countryside. The beautiful Secret Garden Cotopaxi is a little mountain lodge boasting incredible views of Cotopaxi from its hilltop hot tub! First Name Information will be sent to the email provided above 4 Mandango Loop, Vilcabamba Famed as the town of longevity Vilcabamba, in the south of Ecuador, is quickly becoming an ex-pat hub. One of the most popular hikes from Vilcabamba, and possibly one of the hardest too, is the trek to Cerro Mandango. I would advise undertaking this with a guide, as the climb is arduous and steep and the path narrow, sometimes with large drop-offs on either side. If windy the trail can be treacherous and is not recommended for inexperienced hikers or those scared of heights. People have got lost on this trail however, so do make sure you keep the town in view at all times and take a compass with you too. Hosteria Izhacayluma is also a beautiful place to stay just on the outskirts of Vilcabamba. Relax here for a few days and enjoy free yoga classes, shaman ceremonies and the rejuvenating atmosphere of the place. A touch of luxury at backpacker rates! You can read more about my experience in my post Hiking the Loop. The trek normally takes around 3 days and you spend the 2 nights on the trail staying at small guesthouses in local villages you pass through on the way. I loved this trek because I really felt it allowed me to get off the beaten track in Ecuador and get a good glimpse of the everyday life of indigenous, farming communities in this region. It is mentioned in many guidebooks, but I hardly met any other tourists walking the route when I was there, so loved the peace and quiet of hiking by myself. You can walk the loop in either direction, starting either from the towns of Isinlivi or Quilotoa. In Latacunga, I recommend staying at Hostal Tiana , who have plenty of information about the Quilotoa Loop, including maps and the ability to book your accommodation on the trail. So those are my 5 recommended hikes in Ecuador. Have you walked any of them? What were your thoughts? Any other suggestions for great hikes in Ecuador?

### Chapter 3 : Canoa Ecuador Beach: Walk to Canoa Beach – Ecuador's coast properties – Real Estate

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And comments from first-time visitors often fall all over the spectrum, from fabulous to formidable. And everything in between. Indeed, to say this resort town is polarizing would be a gross understatement. Learn how Salinas compares to other places in the tropics in our 50 page report. Click here to get access to the free report. The beach is divided in half by a jetty, which houses the Salinas Yacht Club. To the north is Salinas Beach, and south of the jetty lies Chipipe Beach which has a little bit more of a family atmosphere. The Good First things first. There are some really great things about Salinas, Ecuador. Best of all would have to be the price tag. Not so much the rest of the year. Many like to visit Salinas in June to September, when their kids are out of school. At least during the peak season, which is generally December through April. You can charter a boat for game fishing or whale watching. Adventure companies offer skydiving and parasailing. You can also try surfing or wakeboarding. The Bad As we mentioned, the weather in Salinas, Ecuador is really, really nice during the high season. As a result, tourists flock to it in droves. It looks like Miami in that sunbathers literally line every square inch of the beach. Cars crawl along the crowded streets, bringing in even more tourists. Street vendors line the malecon, the beachfront esplanade, hawking everything from souvenirs to shrimp on a stick. Hosts of businesses and brands also line up to capitalize on the opportunity to market to thousands of visitors all crammed into one place. The crowded, bustling beach is virtually empty, and the place turns into a ghost town. And all for good reason. The beautiful weather of the busy season is replaced by chilly temperatures, and the sky is overcast almost every day. This presents a bit of a problem, since safety can be a bit of a concern the farther you venture from the beachfront resort area. During the peak season, the tourist area is patrolled by a whole battalion of police officers and private security guards. But the area farther from the coast is industrial and impoverished-looking. Again, quite the contrast from the glitz and glitter of the coast. So, the amenities and infrastructure are about what can be expected for a city this size. Salinas, Ecuador Summary Salinas is a really great deal.

### Chapter 4 : Walking on the beach (north) - Montañita - Activities - Ecuador

*Walking along the beach to Olon, Curia, San Jose, beautiful beaches of the coast of Ecuador. A nice output without cost and that will bring us great satisfaction and relaxation it is to go north of Montanita walk.*

Especially because how I felt about Quito. And the fact that I only spent a total of 4 days on mainland Ecuador. Many will disagree with this and say that there are tons of things to do in Ecuador that are amazing. To a certain extent that is true. The country has improved so much in the last decade but it is nothing compared to where Peru and Colombia are heading. Both in economic terms and also things to see and experience. I had a very bad first impression of Quito. I had a very uneasy feeling about the city and ended up understanding that it is indeed not safe after everyone tried to tell me it was. Quito feels like it just finished a very bad relationship with the United States. Again, this is probably a very unfair assessment as I have only been to Quito. I say many things that a lot of people get offended by here on WanderingTrader but the fact of the matter is, they are true. Stereotypes exist for a reason. The United States has had a significant impact and influence on the world after being the dominant world power for decades. It is magnified in Ecuador. My grandmother thinks Buicks are great. US corporations have completely taken over and I have never seen so many English signs and companies in any other Latin American countries. One of the most beautiful places to see the Amazon is in Ecuador and Peru. Nope, not at all. If you are planning on visiting the Galapagos make sure to stop over in Quito and not Guayaquil. Guayaquil is easily one of the most dangerous cities in South America. Both to retire in and invest. If so, please join over 50, people who receive exclusive weekly travel tips. Click the red button below!

### Chapter 5 : Salinas, Ecuador: Not for Everyone

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Visit them is something you must do when traveling through the country Whether you look for adventure or to relax, the best beaches in Ecuador are waiting for you to put your feet on the sand and to bathe in the warm waters. Therefore we will recommend beach resorts that will surely make you fall in love and to always come back again. However it is also a destination to relax, because it is in a small town. Nearby is Puerto Villamil, a small oceanfront city, which has many dining options. Salinas, Santa Elena It is the quintessential beach town. Many surfers choose this city to practice the sport. However, at night the streets light up with music and fun. Playa Rosada y Ayangue, Santa Elena These are two beaches that are almost hidden, but worth visiting. They are very close to one another, but you must go by car to visit them. Playa Rosada has no inhabitants, making it ideal for an evening of romance between you and the sea. While Ayangue is tourist town, with a varied range of local cuisine. You can take tours to the island of La Plata and also admire the mating of the humpback whales during the season ; a ritual of great love. On this beach of calm waters and white sand, you can also explore forests and trails. Perhaps the most prominent attraction of this Ecuadorian beach is its people, always willing to share. It has the fellowship of small towns, where surfers can enjoy the waves at ease. Atacames, Esmeraldas It is one of the most popular beaches in Ecuador. The postcard that makes Atacames unique is to see in its background the rock that adorns its horizon, like a mole on a mouth. Mompiche , Esmeraldas Mompiche gives you a little bit of everything: This small town has great things to offer. The sea gives you excellent waves for surfing and its extensive 7km beach for long walks. Tortuga Bay is ideal to rest and to appreciate nature. You will not need an umbrella, because the mangroves around the beach will protect you from the sun. Take a kayak to go to the sea and watch sea turtles, sharks and more. A bunch of marine iguanas are the ones who welcome you to this beach.

### Chapter 6 : Home | Ecuadorian Coastal Properties

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*walk the beach love the beach plus a few cold beers,had sushi for lunch on the beach. very quit but beautiful lots of cabannas for drinks and food Ask murphy about Playa Punta Barandua.*

### Chapter 9 : walk the beach - Review of Playa Punta Barandua, Olon, Ecuador - TripAdvisor

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